



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

November 1, 2017

Dear Public Water Supplier:

RE: Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment for Fiscal Year 2019 (to be billed in December 2018)

Please forward this notice to the person who is responsible for paying the bills for your public water system. When you receive your bill, please remember to enclose the top part of your bill with your payment.

The Assessment is paid for by all users of public water in Massachusetts and is collected by public water systems (PWSs) and submitted to MassDEP. The Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment rates remain the same for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019.

The Assessment rates for FY 2019, based on water use reported by PWSs for calendar year 2016, are as follows:

- \$8.50 per million gallons of water used by PWSs with master meters;
- Minimum bill for metered PWSs is \$20;
- Flat rate of \$50 for unmetered PWSs serving up to 101;
- Flat rate of \$100 for unmetered PWSs serving 101 through 200; and
- Flat rate of \$250 for unmetered PWSs serving 201 through 899.

Please note that the bills for FY 2019 will be mailed to all PWSs in December 2018. The bills that you receive this year, in December 2017, will be for the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment for FY 2018. The FY 2018 bill is based on water use reported by PWSs on the Annual Statistical Report for calendar year 2015.

Background

In 1993, the Massachusetts Legislature established the Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment as a mechanism to help fund the Commonwealth's effort to provide a safe and fit supply of water to all consumers of public drinking water. The Assessment also supports the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) ability to maintain state primacy to implement the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). With the funds collected through the Assessment, MassDEP provides compliance and technical assistance, training and one-to-one help. This includes providing opportunities for PWSs to receive the Training Contact Hours (TCHs) needed to maintain their state licenses.

A Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment Advisory Committee was also created by the Legislature in 1993 to assist in administering the Assessment Program, including setting the Assessment rate and periodic review of that rate. By law, the following groups are represented on the Committee: a Massachusetts

This information is available in alternate format. Call the MassDEP Diversity Office at 617-556-1139. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

Printed on Recycled Paper

statewide water works nonprofit association, a New England regional water works nonprofit association, a nonprofit association representing rural water systems, a regional water works association, a nonprofit association representing investor-owned water companies, two statewide environmental organizations, organizations representing non-community water suppliers, the Massachusetts Municipal Association, an organization representing industry and one member who shall be appointed by the commissioner. No state government employee may be on the Committee. The Committee makes recommendations about the Assessment rates to MassDEP's Commissioner, holds public meetings, and submits an Annual Report to the Massachusetts Legislature. More information about the Committee is posted on MassDEP's web site at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/advisory-committees/safe-drinking-water-act-assessment-advisory-committee.html>. You are welcome to attend the Committee's public meetings.

Thank you for the support that you have shown to the Drinking Water Program over the past year as we pursue our shared responsibility of protecting public health. A list of the Drinking Water Program's accomplishments for 2016 is provided with this letter. Please contact us at 617-292-5770 or program.director-dwp@state.ma.us if you have any questions about the Assessment Program or other public drinking water topics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvette DePeiza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Yvette" being more prominent.

Yvette DePeiza
Program Director
Drinking Water Program
MassDEP